

For-Hire Workgroup Conference Call Minutes  
1/29/2008

**In attendance:**

Beverly Sauls  
Jason Didden  
Michelle Kasprzak  
Tom Sminkey  
Steve Crooke  
Scott Meyer  
Gary Shepherd  
Bob Zales  
Nicole Bartlett

**Collaboration Tool**

Most people who have tried to log on to the NOAA Fisheries website for MRII workgroups were successful, one person was unable to log on and will contact Scott Saury, and several members planned to participate in the conference call with Scott Sauri tomorrow to get started. Those who had logged on said it was straight forward and easy to use.

**Inventory Document Sections**

Sections not yet available for review:

Pacific Islands; Nicole Bartlett is waiting for approval from Council staff to use language from a document already written in her draft section. Once she has consent, which should be this week, she will send her draft section for review. For areas other than Hawaii, Nicole has limited, undocumented information on voluntary surveys and brief descriptions of the for-hire fisheries. She will also work with Scott Sauri, who may be travelling to the region to assist with inventories of other recreational fishing modes for the Data Management and Standards Workgroup.

Beverly Sauls will contact Craig Lilyestrom and Barry Clifford to find out the progress on sections they are authoring on the Caribbean and north Atlantic regions.

Michelle Kasprzak provided a draft section for the Gulf of Mexico to Beverly Sauls. Beverly is currently adding text to that draft for Florida and other revisions and will post that draft before the next conference call.

How to submit reviewer comments: the group agreed that individual reviewers would post MS Word documents with comments to authors referenced by line number and page number, rather than posting multiple mark-up copies of the same document.

Tom Sminkey agreed to add a discussion of the methods and computations for catch data in his section on the Atlantic For-Hire Surveys.

Michelle Kasprzak suggested a different organization of the document to reduce overlap in the Gulf and Atlantic sections. Tom Sminkey recommended one description of the For-Hire Survey

methodology that can be referred to in other sections. Bob Zales recommended for clarity that differences in the For-Hire Survey among regions should be made clear to reviewers and the public.

Tom Sminkey commented that for each region, there should be a detailed description of the computations used for catch and effort. He recommended when possible including formulas used in those calculations.

Jason Didden suggested that if authors would like comments focused on particular aspects of their sections to send an email to the workgroup members to let reviewers know.

### **Workgroup Meeting Schedule**

Rob Andrews has requested that workgroup chairs provide him with their travel plans and funding needs for travel for MRII budget planning. This workgroup anticipates meeting in Spring, 2008. The purpose of that meeting will be to meet with independent reviewers to give presentations on regional data collection methods and answer any questions those reviewers have before providing their recommendations on regional for-hire data collection methods for the future.

The group discussed meeting locations. Since the first meeting of this group was held in Florida, the group discussed locations on the west coast for the spring meeting. One suggestion was Portland, OR, at the PacFIN headquarters. Other suggestions included Seattle (location of the AK Fisheries Regional Office); and California at either the NMFS Regional Office or the NMFS Science Center.

For budgeting purposes, Beverly Sauls will let Rob know that the meeting will be in Spring, 2008, with up to 13 workgroup members plus the independent review team members, and the location will be on the Pacific coast. The group will decide on the exact location soon.